




Creating a ***GREATER*** Boston VA Healthcare System

*Seeking Your Input on the Concept of
Possible Administrative Integration
of VA Boston Healthcare System
and Bedford VA Medical Center*

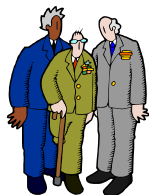
 **VA** Defining **EXCELLENCE** in the 21st Century
HEALTH CARE

VA New England Healthcare System (VISN 1)
Michael Mayo-Smith, MD, MPH, Network Director



1950's VA = Hospitals

Veterans came to the hospital for any and all services
and often stayed there a long time



21st Century VA=

Regional Health Systems
providing the full range of services to
a population of Veterans

Telehealth



MyHealthVet



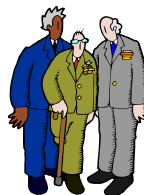
Primary Care



Outpatient
Specialty
Services



Homeless
Programs



Home-Based
Care



CBOCs

Integrations in Healthcare

Creation of larger, more integrated systems are widespread in the private sector

Partners (MGH, BWH, North Shore Medical Center and others)

Beth Israel/Deaconess and CareGroup Hospitals

BWH/Faulkner

Caritas

Single VAHCS is Now the Norm for Metropolitan Areas

Examples:

Dallas/Fort Worth

Detroit

Greater Los Angeles

Houston

- **Indianapolis**
- **Philadelphia**
- **Phoenix**
- **Washington D.C.**

Advantages of Integrated Systems

Easier referrals across campuses

Safer and more seamless transfers and handoffs

Improved coordination of care

Single electronic medical record makes all information immediately available whenever patients are seen

Advantages of Integrated Systems

Easier for patients to use full range of services

Strengths and special programs of each campus readily available to all patients

Administrative efficiencies

Improved regional planning; complementary rather than competitive missions

Boston Area VA Medical Centers

- **Greater Boston used to have 5 independent VA facilities and 4 separate medical/surgical units**
 - **4 have now integrated into VA Boston Healthcare System**
 - **3 main campuses**
 - **West Roxbury (Inpatient Med/Surg, SCI Acute Care, Outpatient Care)**
 - **Brockton (Inpatient Mental Health, Long Term Care, SCI Long Term Care)**
 - **Jamaica Plain (Outpatient, including ambulatory care surgery)**
 - **4 CBOCs**
 - **All of the campuses continue to operate as vibrant healthcare facilities with broad clinical programs, high levels of staff, fully occupied buildings and clear missions**



Boston Area VA Medical Centers

- **Bedford VA Medical Center has remained separate**
 - **1 main campus**
 - **No inpatient acute medical/surgical units**
 - **Limited specialty services**
 - **3 CBOCs**



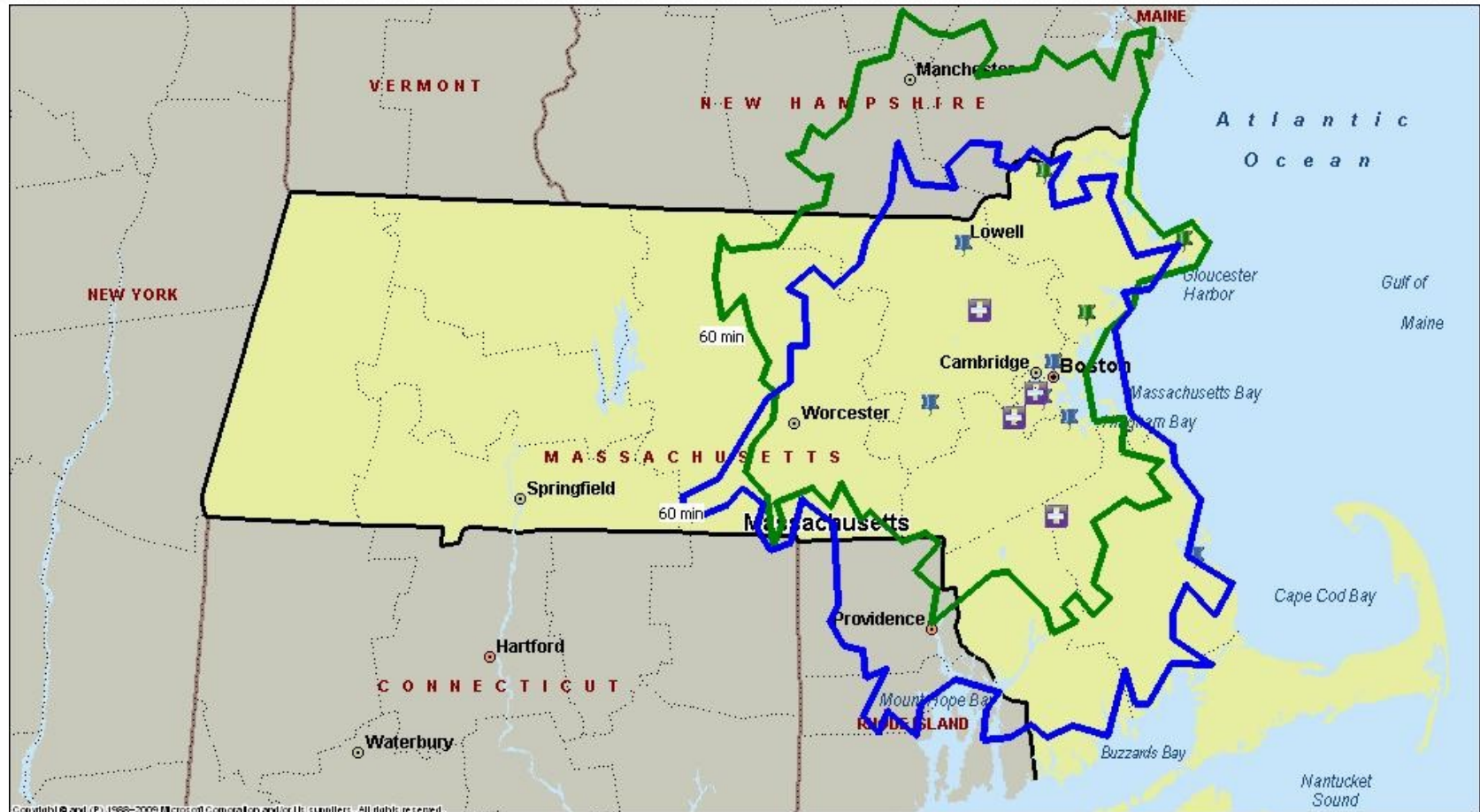


Overlap of Systems

- **A large number of patients use both VA Boston Healthcare System and Bedford VA Medical Center**
 - **Over 6,000 patients currently use both systems every year**
 - **Almost forty percent of the patients seen at Bedford and over \$75 million dollars of care is provided to patients who go between the two systems**
- **Bedford currently relies on Boston for all of its VA in-patient medical-surgical care and a large portion of its outpatient specialty care**
- **Bedford and Boston share medical school affiliations and a combined Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center**



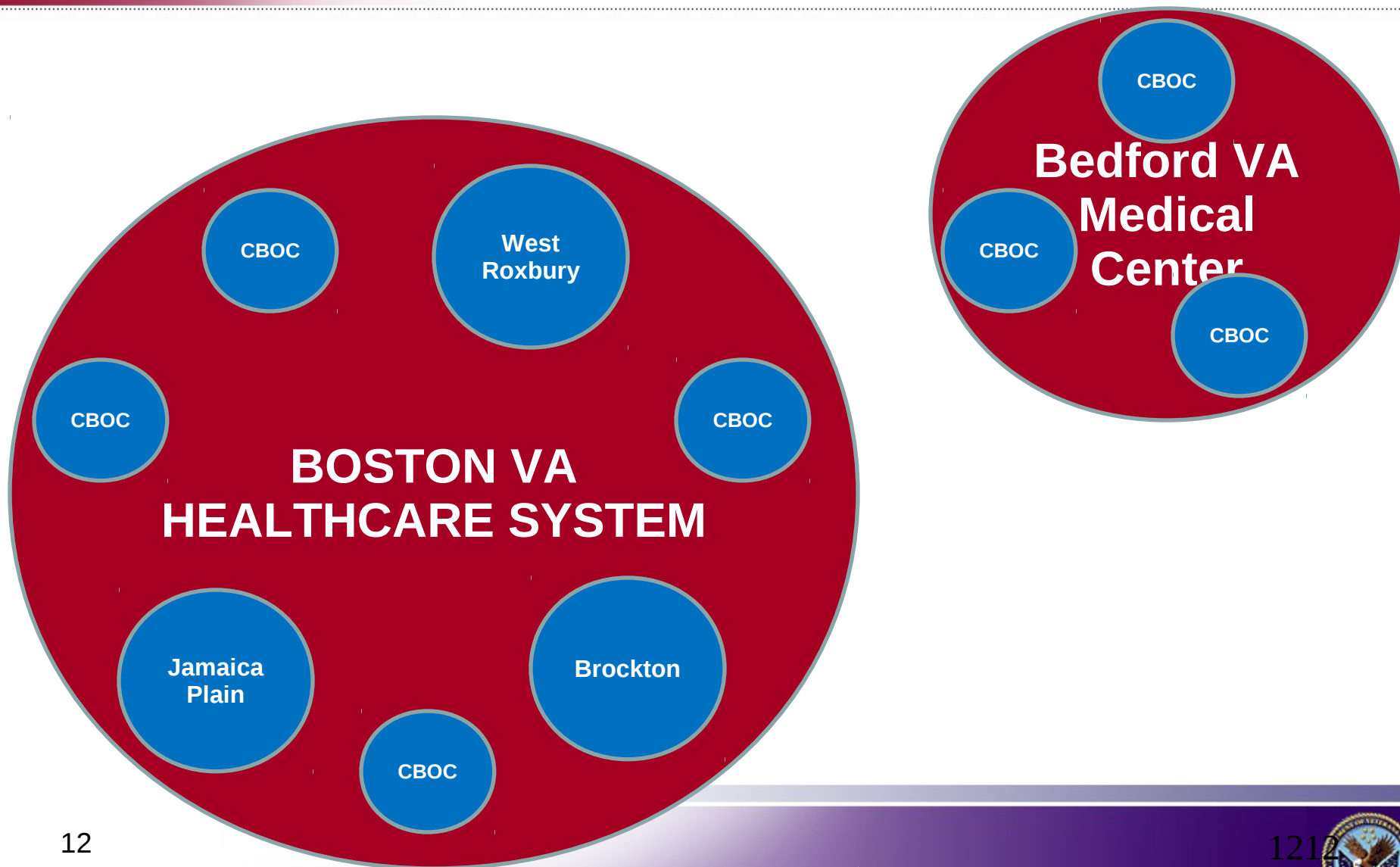
Facility Population Overlap



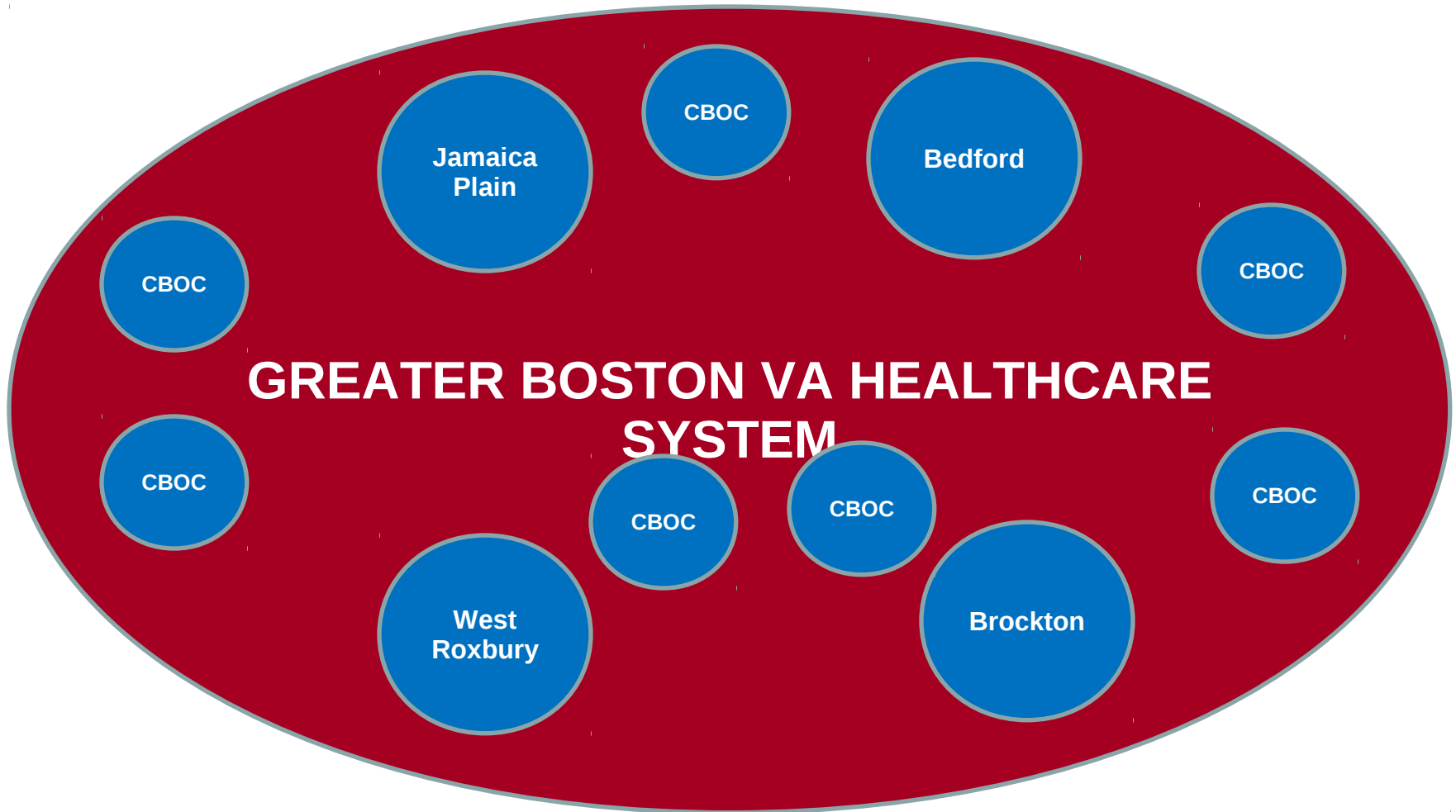
Blue Line - 60 min drive time area from West Roxbury
Blue Pins - Boston CBOCs

Green Line - 60 min drive time area from Bedford
Green Pins - Bedford CBOCs

Today: Two Separate Systems



The Proposal: One Integrated System



Greater Boston Integration



Create a 4 campus system, including 7 CBOCs

Each Campus a vibrant healthcare facility with broad clinical programs, high levels of staff, fully occupied buildings and clear complementary missions

Full range of services available to all patients





What Does This Mean?

- **One Leadership Team**
- **One Electronic Medical Record**
- **One Medical Staff**



What Does This NOT Mean?

- X Closing of facilities**
- X Loss of services in the Boston area**
- X Loss of employment**
- X Moving current inpatients to a different facility**

Why? Improved Care for Veterans

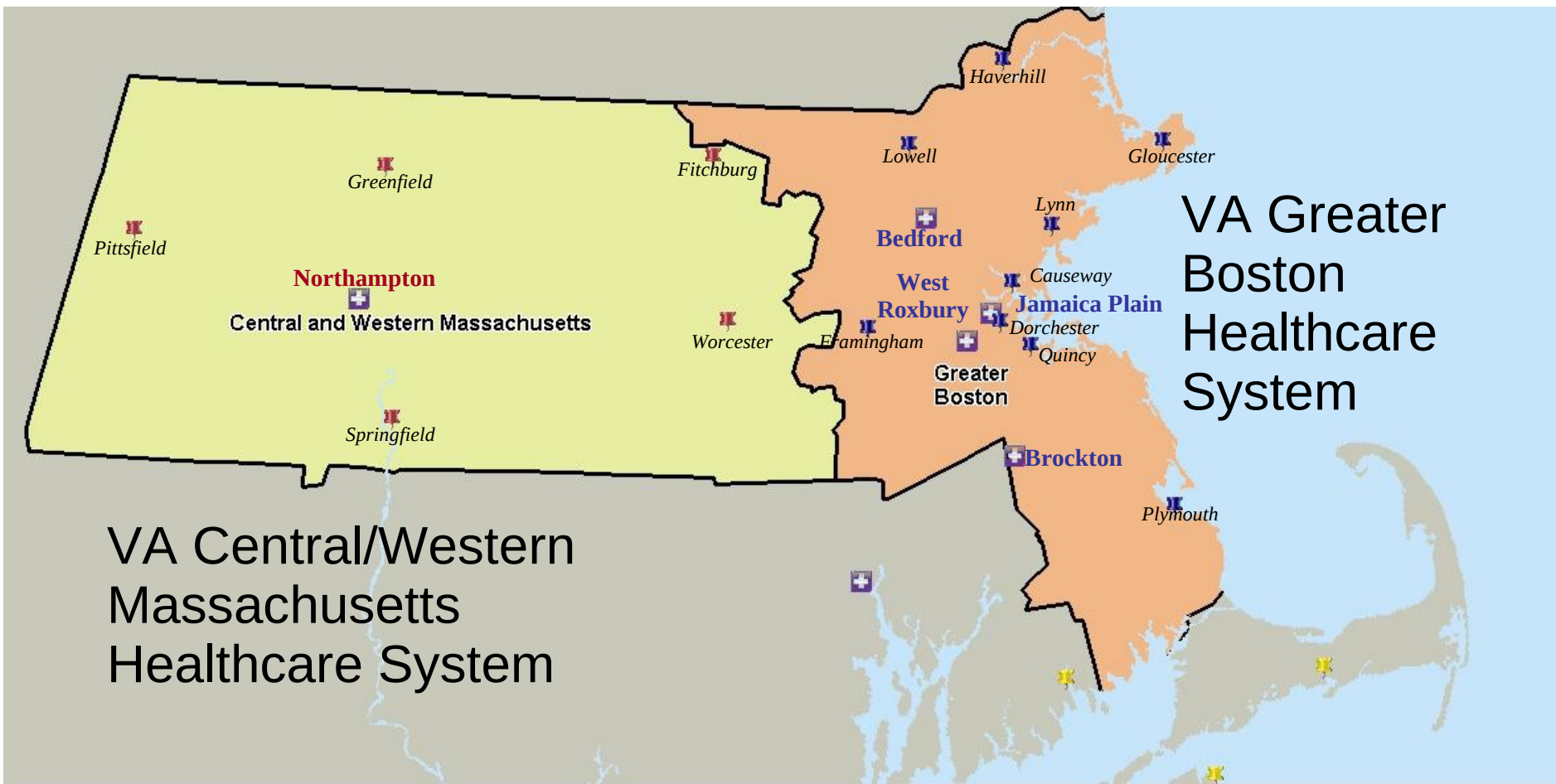
- **Easier referrals between facilities**
- **Safer and more seamless transfer of patients**
- **Single medical record with all medications and labs available immediately**
- **Improved patient satisfaction**

**"I'd like to get my eye care at Bedford, but I'm not leaving my primary care doc at JP because he is excellent and it's too hard to try to use both hospitals."
-Patient in focus group**

Why? Improved Care for Veterans

- **Strengths and special programs of each campus readily available to all patients**
- **Specialty care services at Bedford**
 - **Small specialty services at Bedford VA Medical Center**
 - **Extensive specialty services in VA Boston Healthcare System**
- **Administrative efficiencies and improved regional planning**

21st Century VA Healthcare for Massachusetts





Your Feedback

- **This is a conceptual proposal at this point**
- **No decision has been made**
- **We are seeking broad input**
- **Please submit your comments and/or questions**
 - Internet: <http://www.newengland.va.gov/>
 - Intranet: <http://vaww.visn1.va.gov/intranet/about/cbocs/115448/>





Our Commitment to Veterans

VISN 1 will continue to adapt to the ever changing needs of the Veteran population it serves.



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HEALTH
CARE

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